

WILMINGTON.

**A RECONNOISSANCE TOWARDS THE CITY.**  
The Enemy in Front of It on the 18th Inst.

**The Fort Fisher Prisoners En Route North.**

**Preparations for an Advance Movement.**

**A New Military Department Created.**

**CASUALTIES IN GENERAL ARMY DIVISION.**

**The Richmond Rebels Anticipating the Early Fall of Wilmington.**

**They Fear Sherman Has His Eye on That Port as well as Charleston, &c., &c., &c.**

**Correction of the Report Regarding the Destruction of the Tallahassee and Chickamauga.**

**Admiral Porter, in one of his last dispatches, says:—**  
A large force of gunboats occupied the river between Charleston and Wilmington. That place is heretofore held against blockade runners; and no Alabama or Florida or Chickamauga or Tallahassee will ever fit out again from that port; and our merchants will soon be enabled to pursue in safety their vocations.

**Mr. Homer Merrell's Despatches.**  
ON BOARD THE DISPATCH BOAT C. W. THOMAS, Jan. 18, 1865.

**THE SMALL BOATS OF THE NAVY ARE THIS MORNING EMPLOYED IN TRANSFERRING THE PRISONERS TAKEN IN FORT FISHER FROM THE SHORE ON BOARD THE STEAMER GENERAL FISH.**

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CASUALTIES.

**List of Killed and Wounded of the Second Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps.**

**DEATHS.**  
E. C. LAWRENCE, Captain United States Volunteers and Aid-de-Camp, wounded in head, contusion slight.

**WOUNDED.**  
A. G. LAWRENCE, Captain and Acting Aid-de-Camp, contusion on head, contusion on head.

**DEATHS.**  
E. C. LAWRENCE, Captain United States Volunteers and Aid-de-Camp, wounded in head, contusion slight.

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REBEL ACCOUNTS.

**Wilmington Still Held by the Rebels.**

**THE CONTINUED RETRENCHMENT OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT UPON MATTERS CONNECTED WITH EVENTS IN THE SOUTH, CAN SCARCELY BE INDICATED MORE THAN THE FACT THAT IMPORTANT MOVEMENTS, INSISTENTLY DEVELOPED TO ADMIT OF CONCLUSIONS, ARE IN PROGRESS.**

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